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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: R. Imanaka

: Art Unit: 2611

Serial No.: 09/631,540

: Examiner: C. Grant

Filed: August 3, 2000

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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R :

Responsive to the Official Action dated June 27, 2001, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

REMARKS

Claims 14-24 are pending.

Claims 14 and 22 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type patenting as being unpatentable over claims 14, 17 and 18 of co-pending application Serial No. 09/594,152; and claims 14 and 22 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 14-16 of co-pending application serial no. 09/631,542.

To overcome the provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejections, Applicant is filing with this Response a Terminal Disclaimer.

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the Examiner's finding that claims 16-21 are allowable over the cited art. Applicant also appreciates the Examiner's finding that claims 15, 23 and 24 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. There is, however, no need to rewrite these claims because